

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 (ISO) W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2018

INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 1770

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, AO, PFOR

SUBJECT: ZAIRIAN-ANGOLAN RELATIONS

REF: KINSHASA 1685

1. DURING CONVERSATION MARCH 1 MOBUTU REFERRED TO RECENT MEDIA REPORT FROM LUANDA ALLEGING THAT ATTACKS HAVE BEEN LAUNCHED ACROSS THE ANGOLAN BORDER FROM ZAIRE AND THREATENING "PUNITIVE RAIDS" BY THE PRA. I SAID THAT WHILE I HAD NOT YET SEEN THAT PARTICULAR REPORT, I REMAINED PUZZLED BY THE PRA'S REPEATED CHARGES THAT BOTH ZAIRE AND THE US WERE PLOTTING MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST CABINDA AND ANGOLA. CERTAINLY THERE WAS NO BASIS WHATSOEVER FOR THE ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING US MILITARY OFFICERS ENGAGED IN SUCH ACTIVITY IN ZAIRE. MOBUTU SAID IT WAS A SHAME THAT THE PRA WAS PURSUING ITS PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN, WHICH HE SAID MADE HIM "SAD". HE REPEATED THE VIEW (REFTEL) THAT ANGOLA

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NEEDED SOMEONE TO BLAME FOR ITS CONTINUING INTERNAL PROBLEMS AND NORMALIZATION WITH ZAIRE WOULD THEREFORE "COMPLICATE" THE PRA'S SITUATION.

2. REFERRING TO HIS VISIT TO BRAZZAVILLE LAST WEEKEND, MOBUTU CONFIRMED HE HAD PASSED VIA NGAOUBI A MESSAGE TO NETO REAFFIRMING ZAIRE'S RECOGNITION OF THE PRA. HE HAD ALSO PROPOSED TO NETO

THAT AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION, INCLUDING ANGOLANS, BE INVITED
TO MAKE AN ON-THE-SPOT INVESTIGATION OF THE PRA'S ALLEGATIONS
RE ZAIRIAN-BASED MILITARY ACTIVITIES AGAINST ANGOLA. MOBUTU
SAID HE COULD ONLY INTERPRET LUANDA'S LATEST CHARGES (PARA ONE
ABOVE), APPARENTLY MADE AFTER HAVING RECEIVED MOBUTU'S MESSAGE
VIA NGAOUBI, AS CONFIRMATION THAT THE PRA WAS NOT NOW INTERESTED
IN MOVING AHEAD TOWARD NORMALIZATION.
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